

Senator Fenger, Newell, Hannibal, Withem to study, compare, and evaluate the means available in Nebraska for financing capital improvements. (See page 2031 in the Journal). And 133 by Senator Remmers and Sieck, study for the feasibility of expanding the tax base beyond property tax. (See page 2031-2 in the Journal). Mr. President, Mr. President, LR 19 was a bill introduced, or excuse me, resolution introduced by Senators Hefner, Howard Peterson and Von Minden. It will propose a resolution to an amendment to Article VIII of the Nebraska Constitution. The resolution was first read, Mr. President, on January 19 of this year. It was referred to the Constitutional Revision, Recreation Committee for hearing. It was advanced to General File.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I apologize for the late hour but I guess it can't be helped. I move for the advancement of LR 19 and this is a proposed constitutional amendment which would put a restriction on the total amount of revenue that the State of Nebraska could collect. And the resolution has three parts to it. The first part says that a 5 percent increase over the amount of all revenue collected, the immediate fiscal year, the prior fiscal year. The revenue includes taxes, fees, franchises, or other methods, but excludes federal monies. Second part of it says 60 percent of the annual per capita personal income increase or decrease for the State of Nebraska computed by using the most recent figures available by the United States Department of Commerce. If amount of the lesser is negative, the aggregate revenue collected shall be decreased by that amount. The Legislature may provide that the increase or decrease be at least one percent. The second part of this resolution provides that if the Legislature requires the state to fund programs that were originally funded by political subdivisions, then the Legislature may allow for an increase in revenue to cover the cost of the program. This says that if we mandate a program to local government or an expanded program, that this revenue increase could only occur during the first year that the program is in effect. The last part of this limits...provided by this resolution may be exceeded for a period of one fiscal year only upon declaration of an emergency made by four-fifths of this body. And of course, this would be following a public hearing and approved by the Governor. This resolution would be effective, if adopted, the first fiscal year following the 1984 general election. This resolution is a proposal to slow the growth of state revenue and one of the reasons why I introduced this resolution is because many of my constituents back home say that we have too much government and that they want less government. Yet when we, the State Legislature, try to limit a